

June 18, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**PROPOSITION 218 ASSESSMENT BALLOTS - CITY OF CALABASAS  
LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 22  
(CALABASAS ROAD-COMMERCIAL)  
(THIRD) (3 VOTES)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

Support the assessment on County-owned property within the boundaries of the City of Calabasas Landscaping and Lighting District No. 22 (Calabasas Road-Commercial area) for landscape maintenance and services within the public right-of-way at an annual cost of \$189, and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to cast the ballot in support of the assessment for the property.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

As a result of the passage of Proposition 218, property owned by government agencies, including Los Angeles County, became subject to assessment by various County and non-County assessment districts on July 1, 1997. The County, like other property owners, will be able to cast ballots supporting or opposing the assessments, and its ballots will be weighted to reflect its proportionate share of the total assessment.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
June 18, 2002  
Page 2

One such district, which is in the process of seeking property owner approval for an assessment, is a landscaping and lighting district in the Calabasas area identified as City of Calabasas Landscaping and Lighting District No. 22, Calabasas Road-Commercial Area. Since the County owns property within the boundaries of this district, it has the right to participate in the balloting on the assessment. This is a City of Calabasas assessment district and the public hearing on the proposed assessment is scheduled for July 3, 2002.

The property which this ballot represents contains one parcel, identified as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 2069-032-900, occupied by the County Fire Department's (FD) Fire Station 68. The City Council adopted a Resolution of Intention on May 15, 2002 to levy the proposed assessments, including the County-owned properties. The affected County department has determined that the services to be financed by the City's assessment district will be of sufficient benefit to warrant the Board's support. Accordingly, we are recommending that your ballot be completed as supporting the City's assessment.

In order to be approved under Proposition 218, the majority of property owners who return their ballots will have to approve the proposed assessment with their ballots being weighted according to their individual assessments based on the size, location, type of improvements and benefits received by the property. The proposed district's total annual assessment amount of \$45,050 is to provide for ongoing operation, servicing and maintenance of the landscaping in the common areas for the City landscaping and lighting district.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs that we invest in public infrastructure, in order to strengthen the County's fiscal capacity. Support for the benefit assessment levied against the County property to facilitate maintenance and servicing of public landscaping fills an identified need and supports this strategy by complying with the Strategic Asset Management Principles (Goal 4, Strategy 2, Objective 2).

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
June 18, 2002  
Page 3

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The total annual assessment for 2002-03 to be levied on the subject County property is \$189. For future years assessment may be adjusted annually for any increase in the Consumer Price Index, normal Southern California Edison Company energy increases, or by a re-balloting of property owners.

We propose to charge the assessment to the benefiting department which occupies the assessed parcel. Based on your board's approval of other Proposition 218 assessments, this is in keeping with the current policy and practice of charging such assessments to the County departments occupying or deriving use from the assessed property. FD is aware of and support this financing plan.

The financial cost of paying this assessment on the budget of FD is not significant and can be absorbed within the department's 2002-03 budget appropriations. Future financing for approved assessments will be addressed as part of the annual budget process.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Proposition 218, approved by the voters in November 1996, requires public agencies to send ballots to all affected property owners prior to increasing or imposing a new assessment. The agency cannot increase an assessment or impose a new assessment if a majority of the ballots returned oppose the proposed assessment. The ballots are weighted according to the proposed assessment amount of the properties. In addition, publicly owned properties will no longer be exempt from the assessment unless the parcels receive no special benefit.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
June 18, 2002  
Page 4

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES**

Approval of this benefit assessment will help ensure the maintenance and public safety of the streets and highways near the County property affected.

**CONCLUSION**

It is requested that the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, return the adopted, stamped, Board letter to the CAO, Real Estate Division, 222 South Hill Street, 4th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID E. JANSSEN  
Chief Administrative Officer

DEJ:SNY  
WLD:RC:pb

Attachment

c: County Counsel  
Auditor-Controller  
Fire Department  
City of Calabasas